

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims ~~2-5~~, 15, 17-18 and 21-~~24~~ have been canceled.

Claims 1, 9, 14, 16, 20, 28, 30 and 33 have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A recording paper comprising a paper support having a front surface and a rear surface opposite the front surface and a recording layer formed on the front surface of the paper support, the paper support having a ribbon-shaped security element embedded therein, the ribbon-shaped security element having a front surface facing the front surface of the paper support and a rear surface facing the rear surface of the paper support, and the recording paper being characterized in that:

the distance from the front surface of the paper support to the front surface of the security element is 1 to 7 times the thickness of the security element;

the distance from the rear surface of the paper support to the rear surface of the ribbon-shaped security element is 0.5 to 6 times the thickness of the security element;

Amended
the thickness of the paper support is 4 times to 10 times the thickness of the ribbon-shaped security element;

the thickness of the paper support is 40 to 250 μ m;

the ribbon-shaped security element has a width of 0.3 mm to 20 mm and a thickness of 10 μ m to 80 μ m; and

the recording layer is a heat-sensitive recording layer comprising an electron-donating compound, an electron- accepting compound and a binder.

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9. (Amended) The recording paper according to claim 1, in which the security element is a ribbon-shaped security element comprising a synthetic resin film or a metallized synthetic resin film.

Amended
14. (Amended) The recording paper according to claim 10, in which the adhesive layer is prepared by uniformly dispersing an adhesive, and if desired at least one member selected from the group consisting of a fluorescent dye, a fluorescent pigment and a luminescent pigment, in water or an organic solvent serving as a medium to obtain a coating composition for forming an adhesive

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layer, applying the resulting coating composition to the ribbon-shaped security element in an amount of about 1 g/m² to about 10 g/m² on a dry weight basis, and drying the resulting coating.

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16. (Amended) The recording paper according to claim 1, in which a protective layer containing a binder having a film forming ability is formed on the heat-sensitive recording layer.

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20. (Amended) A paper support for a recording paper, the paper support having a front surface and a rear surface opposite the front surface and having a ribbon-shaped security element embedded therein, the ribbon-shaped security element having a front surface facing the front surface of the paper support and a rear surface facing the rear surface of the paper support, and the recording paper being characterized in that:

the distance from the front surface of the paper support to the front surface of the security element is 1 to 7 times the thickness of the security element;

Amended
the distance from the rear surface of the paper support to the rear surface of the ribbon-shaped security element is 0.5 to 6 times the thickness of the security element;

the thickness of the paper support is 4 times to 10 times the thickness of the ribbon-shaped security element;

the thickness of the paper support is 40 to 250 μ m; and

the ribbon-shaped security element has a width of 0.3 mm to 20 mm and a thickness of 10 μ m to 80 μ m.

Amended
28. (Amended) The paper support according to claim 20, in which the security element is a ribbon-shaped security element comprising a synthetic resin film or a metallized synthetic resin film.

Amended
30. (Amended) The paper support according to claim 29, in which the adhesive layer adheres to the paper support by contact of the adhesive layer and water when the security element having the adhesive layer is embedded within the paper support, or by the heat applied when the paper is dried after production, or by the pressure applied during supercalendering.
